



PROVOKING GOD'S
VISITATION

THE BLESSINGS AND POWER OF GOD'S VISITATION

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INTRODUCTION

Dictionary.com defines visitation in several ways but the one which most fits the subject of this book is “the appearance or coming of a supernatural influence or spirit.” It also goes further to give another definition which fits into why God visits people in the Old Testament; It describes it as an “Affliction or punishment, as from God.”

In the negative sense, when there is a supernatural visitation, it brings adversity, catastrophe, distress, pain or retribution. This type of visitation causes calamity, disaster, trouble or the punishment of the people.

However a positive visitation is “a coming to stay, a coming to sojourn.” It is stopping over, or making a call on a person. So, when God comes to visit, it is more than just 'swinging by'. It is coming with the intention to come and dwell with, sojourn and reside with a person for a period of time. Our discourse is about when God visits: a divine visitation.

How do we know when God is on a visit?

Oftentimes, such visits come when a person is going through a storm. The Bible tells the story of the Apostles in the boat on the sea and Jesus suddenly coming, walking on water. In the middle of their storm, Jesus came to visit, so to say; and the very storm that was trying to destroy them became a stepping stone to experiencing His power over the elements.

God can use the storms we go through and make them an opportunity for us to experience His power to deliver.

Most times when the word visitation is used in the Old Testament, it suggests and connotes judgement. It is the same kind of language which Luke referred to.

*“What will you do in the day of punishment, and in the desolation which will come from afar? To whom will you flee for help? And where will you leave your glory?” **Isaiah 10:3***

*“And level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”” **Luke 19:44***

However, in the New Testament, visitation is a picture of an expected guest who comes with all the blessings and favours we desire.

*“Having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.” **1 Peter 2:12***

We see also that in the New Testament God’s visitation speaks of His redemption and deliverance.

“Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people,”
Luke 1:68

“Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us”; and, “God has visited His people.”” **Luke 7:16**

In Luke 7 in particular, there was a sound of celebration because “God has visited His people.”

When we connect the fact of God’s visitation with the scripture that says, *“Where the word of a king is, there is power...”* **Ecclesiastes 8:4**; then it is safe to conclude that the grace of God, and also salvation, favour and blessing, all accompany God’s visitation. God's visitation results in the person who has been visited, glorifying God.

For this dispensation of grace, this time of God’s visitation, is also a time of refreshing. God does it mostly unannounced; however, He does not come unexpected. In other words, we must expect Him. Jesus told us that no one knows the hour.

“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.” **Matthew 24:36**

When God’s visit happens, it will be obvious. We will see the manifestation of deliverance, joy and favour. We must desire it so that we don’t make room for the enemy to take advantage and manifest himself as if he is God or an angel.

“And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.” **2 Corinthians 11:14**

Sometimes a person might be having a personal experience that is from the flesh or demons. We need to know when it is a visitation from God and when it is demonic.

It is important to recognise when God is visiting because no one can afford to miss His visitation.

God's visitation is important to us. Israel missed it when He came and they rejected Him.

“He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.” **John 1:11**

On one occasion after His resurrection, the disciples on the way to Emmaus missed the magnitude and the strength of His divine visitation, because they did not recognise the One with Whom they walked. The journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus is approximately seven miles. That would have meant close to a two and a half hour walk and the chance for Jesus to expand over a thousand scriptures to them. And yet, they did not recognise the hour of His visit.

In Luke 19:44, the scripture sounds a stern warning about the consequence of missing the time of His visitation. This verse is translated in the Knox translation as, *“And all because thou didst not recognise the time of My visiting thee.”* God’s Speed translation says, *“Because you did not know when God visited you.”* Berkley translation says, *“When you were divinely visited”*. The NEB version says, *“God’s*

moment when it came.”

Have you ever had people come to visit, only for them to find you're not at home? If those visitors were meant to bless you, or give you something that you desperately needed, it can be most painful. You immediately regret the fact that you could not connect with them when they came to visit you. Likewise, when a man misses God's visitation, he exposes himself to destruction because it is God's visitation that becomes your greatest protection against satanic onslaught. If you can accommodate the visitation of God, it will accelerate the blessing upon you.

As Abraham looked into the horizon of the Sinai Peninsula one day, he observed three men coming towards him. Abraham's ability to accommodate these men meant that he entertained angels unawares. He did not know that One of them was the Lord in angelic form, before the fullness of time. The visit produced the blessing which resulted in the birth of Isaac.

“And He said, “I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son.”” **Genesis 18:10**

Divine visitation is so powerful because it will establish God's covenant and His capacity to change your experience in life.

“And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: “Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.” **Genesis 13:14-15**

Remember, God promised Abraham a child several times over twenty five years, and as if to make His promise good, He decided to come in person. Imagine if Abraham was not available on that day. That is why we must learn to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and be led by Him.

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” **Romans 8:16**

Divine visitation is that dimension of God that takes challenges far away from you. It breaks you free from the power of stress, looses you from the control of tension and makes you grow in the blessings of God. Divine visitation will make your life sweeter as your days go by because you know that God's visit will leave you a better person.

“But the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.” **Proverbs 4:18**

CHAPTER 1 - ESTABLISHING A REASON FOR HIS VISITATION

We have all experienced people making unexpected and unsolicited visits to our homes. However, it is God's purpose and plan for your life that provokes His visitation, and the purpose of His visitation is for you to be blessed. His desire for you is that in every way, your life should work and your dreams should happen.

"The Lord will perfect that which concerns me;

Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever; do not forsake the works of Your hands."
Psalm 138:8

So God focuses on the totality of your being when He visits you.

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." **3 John 1:2**

God also visits you because whatever affects you, affects Him. The Bible calls us, "His people and the sheep of His pasture."

"Know that the Lord, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture." **Psalm 100:3**

In the New Testament, we are told that He has appointed Himself as the eternal and final High Priest for our lives and He is moved by our need.

"For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin." **Hebrews 4:15**

So, your health is of concern to Him.

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." **3 John 1:2**

Your marriage is of concern to Him.

"Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge." **Hebrews 13:4**

You need a divine visitation because your job security is of concern to Him.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." **Jeremiah 29:11**

"And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day." **Deuteronomy 8:18**

Your financial welfare is also of concern to God. Your vision in life, and how it pans out, is of concern to Him and because of His love for you, He does not want you to go in the wrong direction.

*“For the vision is yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come, It will not tarry.” **Habakkuk 2:3***

*“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.” **Jeremiah 29:11***

God is concerned about things as mundane as what we eat or enjoy. He is concerned about the house you live in. And even though He has given us an intelligent mind to make decisions, He is never too tired to listen to us or relate with Him as a friend. His visit is in order to be an active participant in your life. Growing up I noticed a particular wall plaque, which hung in many Christian homes. It read: “God is the head of this home, a silent listener to every conversation.” Well, if we relegate Him to that post, He will accept it and not get involved. But for those who desire His visitation, He will be an active participant who will make their dreams happen.

Let us look closely at some major reasons why we must provoke God’s visitation.

1. SALVATION

Eternal life is the *bonafide* right of every human being but it is congruent upon them confessing with their mouth the Lord Jesus and receiving Him with their heart.

*“But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” **Romans 10:8-10***

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” **John 3:16***

God does this because of the tremendous love He has for us.

*“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” **John 15:13***

Salvation is the entry point to all that God has for you. You must be born again and once you have had this experience, you have started your journey into the beautiful experience of divine visitation. Salvation is therefore from here to eternity. The worst thing that can happen to anyone is to reject God’s divine offer of His divine salvation. It has been freely provided for us and it is for us to receive and welcome Christ.

*“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” **Revelation 3:20***

It is free on our part to receive but costly on the part of God because His Son had to die for it. The death of Jesus on the cross put to rest the dominance of satan, sickness, sadness and shame.

*“Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.” **Colossians 2:14***

2. GOOD HEALTH

We separate the different things that Christ has done for us in order for us to take them in one at a time. It is like a multiple course meal. First is the salvation of our souls, second is the provision of good health. Jesus came to give us healing and good health.

*“Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.” **Isaiah 53:4-7***

*“That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: “He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.”” **Matthew 8:17***

*“The Lord will strengthen him on his bed of illness; You will sustain him on his sickbed.” **Psalms 41:3***

Jesus declares to us that He has been anointed to break the power of sickness and all that holds sway over our wellbeing. When we seek His visitation we are asking for the Lord, whose presence brings healing and health, to dwell with us.

*““The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed;” **Luke 4:18***

Jesus declares in this passage that He is anointed. He is the One who heals the broken-hearted and sets captives free. Although we may not give it adequate covering in this book, it must be understood that people do experience demonic visitation. This book on the other hand is about how to provoke divine visitation; that moment when God visits your life and brings His benefits with Him. One of these benefits is healing.

*“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” **Acts 10:38***

It is divine visitation because God Himself will show up. He will not send an angel. After all, it was not an angel who bore our sorrows and pains on the cross. It was Christ Himself.

*“Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.” **1 Peter***

2:24

When He visits, you experience healing because it is not that He comes to heal but He carries the virtue and releases it where you are. Your healing is not in the process of being settled, it is already done. Christ has already conquered sickness, just as He conquered the power of sin.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” 1 Peter 5:8

“Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.” Colossians 2:15

So, when God visits you deliverance follows because you will no longer be under the power of the evil one. We need to solicit and seek His visitation because men who do not have God's visitation are like bodies totally devoid of resistance to the viruses and parasites that carry sickness. God's visitation in your life makes you immune to the demonic sickness and diseases that may be flying around in your neighbourhood.

“And they called and asked whether Simon, whose surname was Peter, was lodging there.” Acts 10:18

It does not matter how the sickness has been around; this does not limit the power of God when He comes and visits. The impotent man was healed by Jesus in an instant after thirty eight years of being bound and confined to a limited life, location and the experience of joy. It is not the number of years of the sickness, it is the quality of what Jesus has already achieved for us that counts.

“Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.” James 5:14

3. FINANCES

You need the visitation of God in this area particularly because one of the biggest giants that fights believers is the giant of financial issues. The enemy knows how to lie to us and make us accept poverty, or work with a poverty mentality. He tells us, “Save the little that you have.” And so, we are so busy saving the little that we have, or managing the little that we have, that in the process we overlook the principles of God's Word and also fail to realise that it is the blessing of the Lord that makes rich.

“The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.” Proverbs 10:22

If a person lives under the lies of satan he will be unable to release what is in his hands. He will not be a giver and even his decision to save money is based on fear. This eventually gives room to the spirit of lack controlling their life. You must refuse to walk in darkness with your finances. It is not your labour that brings the breakthrough financially. It is God who supplies.

“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

When darkness prevails, movement is limited. For example, if you were driving in the evening, your speed would be slower than when you are driving in the daytime, because darkness has a way of slowing you down. However, God's presence shatters all darkness.

“And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”
John 1:5

The presence of the Lord is the presence of the God of light. It is the presence of Jehovah Ori Himself.

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” **Psalm 27:1**

So, turn the light of God's Word on so that you can prosper in everything you do.

God visits in order to establish your redemption right, the right to be blessed and to handle the blessings and riches of Christ.

“And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.” **Deuteronomy 8:18**

“Wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.”
Psalm 112:3

The world in which we live is governed by an age-old Babylonian system which is based on shortage, scarcity and opportunity. Even where there is no shortage, people deliberately create artificial scarcity in order to keep the price of things at the level they want. Divine visitation connects you by heaven's covenant to divine supply. In this relationship, shortage does not determine how much God supplies. God blesses because of covenant. It is wrong for you to believe that God supplies needs, or that God makes provision just to quench needs. He actually desires to give you in order for you to just enjoy His covenant.

“My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips.”
Psalm 89:34

He already guarantees that His covenant will not fail, so do not let the world's standard be a determinant of God's blessing. It is time to flow in the supernatural supply of God.

Visitation is powerful and we see several examples in scriptures. The God who visited the widow who had nothing except a little jar of oil and turned her poverty into increase, can visit you and do the same.

God's visitation, in the realm of financial breakthrough, can come by way of ideas that break the gate of poverty. The widow could have missed her visitation if she had not listened to the prophet. The steps he suggested seemed ridiculous but the woman accomplished the miraculous.

So, prepare for the work of God to be done in your life; for God's Word to give you a breakthrough of geometric proportions, beyond what you can

manufacture, produce or achieve for yourself. God's visitation will bring you out of poverty and ground you in the Word of God. So many people have ignored God's visitation and they have missed what God has for them. They miss it through ignorance of the Word, ignorance of their worth, ignorance of the world they live in and ignorance of what God wants to do in their life.

God instructed Moses concerning those who would produce the utensils in the temple and said He would visit them in the night season to show them how to produce the items required for the temple.

"I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel; My heart also instructs me in the night seasons." **Psalms 16:7**

Divine ideas can change your life and move you forward. The lack of ideas and the lack of ideals stop many people from becoming whom God wants them to be. It is not natural strength that lifts a man. A man's platform of operation is changed by divine visitation.

"I returned and saw under the sun that - the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to men of understanding, nor favor to men of skill; but time and chance happen to them all." **Ecclesiastes 9:11**

True prosperity is often by divine visitation and impartation. Peter laboured all night and caught nothing. Jesus visited his boat and the story changed.

"But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." **Luke 5:5**

"He will guard the feet of His saints, but the wicked shall be silent in darkness. "For by strength no man shall prevail." **1 Samuel 2:9**

By strength, no man can prevail. But by God's visitation, a man's story can totally change.

CHAPTER 2 - THE BOOSTERS OF GOD'S VISITATION

Whenever Israel sinned, one of the ways God castigated them was by not only visiting them for punishment, but also by withdrawing His presence and His Word. The scriptures render:

"Now the boy Samuel ministered to the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no widespread revelation" 1 Samuel 3:1

So, conversely, certain things make divine visitation easily accessible.

1. THE WORD OF GOD

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

It is God's method to send His Word to the place He intends to visit.

"He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." Psalm 107:20

God and His Word are the same so when His Word comes to a place, He brings a change. When God's Word enters the joints and the marrow, it discerns thoughts, intents and establishes the purpose of God. People can look at you as if you are not doing the right thing to deserve it, or that you are not the right person to be blessed; but when God comes to visit and He discerns your thoughts, intents and person, He can bless you to the surprise of those who think you are not on a particular level.

God's Word is active and He uses it to create. It was the same Word that created the universe.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made." John 1:1-3

That Word created man.

"Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all[a] the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Genesis 1:26

The Word is the agent God sends for the healing of man, as we have already established in Psalm 107:20. Whenever God wants to bring a change to a situation, He sends His Word because His Word carries the same authority as His presence. God and His Word are the same. God never does anything without speaking it first. As a matter of fact, He says, "I will do a great thing, the ears that hear it will tingle." Whenever His Word manifests in power and authority, it is not

just a word that is known mentally but it is a Word that is experienced powerfully. As a result, there will be power in such places.

*“Where the word of a king is, there is power; and who may say to him, “What are you doing?” ” **Ecclesiastes 8:4***

When God’s Word visits and gives you a revelation, that revelation can move you from behind and put you ahead. The revelatory Word results in divine visitation. It is the Word in you that determines the miracle around you. When Simon told Jesus, “We caught nothing but at your Word...” he immediately made room for the Word to change his circumstance. When God wanted to fashion the world, it was with that spoken Word.

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.” **John 1:1-3***

Until God speaks to your situation by His Word, darkness will continue to prevail. Darkness prevailed upon the earth until God spoke His Word to it.

*“Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.” **Genesis 1:3***

So the key to changing a situation; the key to God’s manifestation is to secure His revelation for every situation, which comes by reason of His visitation. When the Word visits your life, it removes your frustration and challenges. We are told in Deuteronomy 32 that God led Israel.

*“So the Lord alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.” **Deuteronomy 32:12***

The Word of God may be directed at specific situations so that you can know victory.

*“Therefore thus says the Lord God of hosts: “Because you speak this word, behold, I will make My words in your mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them.” **Jeremiah 5:14***

Those who receive the Word and release it have prepared themselves for the visitation of God.

So, to boost His presence and visit, love His Word. Enjoy it more than your necessary food. Crave it. Read it. Meditate on it. Mutter it to yourself regularly.

*“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” **Joshua 1:8***

You cannot be so Word-based and fail. It is not possible.

2. ANGELS

One of the greatest ways God visited His people in the Old and New Testaments was through angelic presence. Angels have various responsibilities and categories. There are warriors, worshippers, messengers, the angel of death,

executors of judgement etc. Whatever category they come in, they are said to be sent to minister to the heirs of salvation.

*“Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?” **Hebrews 1:14***

Angels are supernatural beings sent by God to help humans. They are not regular physical beings. However, they may put on physical bodies like humans when the occasion demands. This was the case in the city of Sodom, when two men arrived in the city. They were not ordinary men, they were angels.

In your season of visitation, God can send angels to visit you, comfort, minister, or engage in a service for your benefit, so that you will know that God is visiting you.

There are several examples of this. Firstly, Samson: The parents of Samson desired a child. They had prayed and waited on God and finally God broke the power of barrenness by sending an angel to announce to Samson's parents that a son would be born and that he would be raised for the deliverance of Israel.

*“And the Angel of the Lord appeared to the woman and said to her, “Indeed now, you are barren and have borne no children, but you shall conceive and bear a son.” **Judges 13:3***

*“And God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the Angel of God came to the woman again as she was sitting in the field; but Manoah her husband was not with her. Then the woman ran in haste and told her husband, and said to him, “Look, the Man who came to me the other day has just now appeared to me!” So Manoah arose and followed his wife. When he came to the Man, he said to Him, “Are You the Man who spoke to this woman?” And He said, “I am.” **Judges 3: 9-11***

The second example of angelic visitation we may cite is Abraham. Having waited for God for 25 years, two angelic beings showed up and his story changed. Every time you witness a miraculous deliverance in circumstances and ways that are most difficult for you to explain, it is likely that you have experienced an angelic visitation, which is the product of God's visitation.

God can send warrior angels to fight your battle.

*“The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them.” **Psalms 34:7***

*“Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?” **Hebrews 1:14***

He can send a messenger to deliver a blessing to you.

“Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!” But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid,

*Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?” And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible.” Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.” **Luke 1:26-38***

You also must learn how to release the angels around you to go to work. The scriptures make us understand that there are angels around us. When Daniel's life was in mortal danger, God used an angel to shut the mouths of the lions.

*“My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.” **Daniel 6:22***

In the New Testament, one of the most powerful visitations of angels was in the case of Peter, who would have died the following day but for the visit and deliverance wrought by angels.

*“Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, “Arise quickly!” And his chains fell off his hands. Then the angel said to him, “Gird yourself and tie on your sandals”; and so he did. And he said to him, “Put on your garment and follow me.” So he went out and followed him, and did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him. And when Peter had come to himself, he said, “Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people.”” **Acts 12:7-11***

That visit made chains fall off him and made seeing soldiers become momentarily blind.

God is still in the business of releasing the ministry of angels to establish His divine visitation. Angels are great helpers in our journey through life. If you do not use them, then you will lose them. Would it not be a tragedy to get to heaven and discover that warrior angels surrounded us during the times we were going through battles, but we were unaware of how to put them to work? Imagine an angel with a sword in his hand but unable to do anything because you have not released enough glory in worship and you have not commanded that angels go to

work on your behalf.

3. CHALLENGES

Ironically, divine visitation is provoked by the challenges we go through. During the Babylonian captivity three Hebrew men, and under the rule of king Nebuchadnezzar, had defied the king's order to bow down to the image he had carved. This meant that out of everyone in the entire kingdom, these three men had stood against the word of the king. Sometimes the challenges of life are a way for us to experience God's visitation.

God is not the author of evil but He permits certain things to happen in order to show His power in our lives. Your emergence begins when God allows you to face a battle you cannot win yourself. You give Him a chance to visit and turn the situation around. It may not be the best or recommended way to experience God's visitation; however, it is one chance for us to see His power at work.

You do not need to be in trouble before God can visit you but if that is the only way, He is ready to visit you in your situation. Until Jacob had a dislocation he did not get his relocation.

"Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him."

Genesis 32:24-25

Until he was battered, he did not get better.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, the executive of the Godhead. He is the One ever present, acting for and on behalf of the Father and the Son. He is the Helper of the believer, and in our moments when we need the visitation of God, He is the One who leads us.

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God." **Romans 8:14**

Not only does He lead us, He also affirms us and makes us know that our self-doubt should not stand in the presence of God. We are still God's children in spite of our infirmities.

"The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." **Romans 8:16**

A relationship with God makes Him expose His mind and program to us.

"Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God." **Romans 8:26-27**

He is not an energy, He is a personality. In His hour of visitation, He can guide,

speak and clarify. For example, he specifically mentioned Paul and Barnabas as those who were to go out as evangelists to the gentile world.

*“As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” **Acts 13:2***

The One who brooded upon the waters at the founding of the planet can brood upon our hearts to clarify the purpose and plan of God and give us a clear leading.

5. GOD’S SERVANTS

God still works through men to initiate and execute His visitation. It takes one man to attempt to sink your boat and another one to keep it afloat. When God brings deliverance to His people, He will oftentimes send a prophet. Prophetic mantles and anointing will pull a man out of any situation. This was what He did when He brought Israel out of Egypt.

*“By a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet he was preserved.” **Hosea 12:13***

Listening to such prophets, who are clearly led of God, can bring us into our visitation and prosperity.

*“So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper.”” **2 Chronicles 20:20***

A prophet can either be a seeing prophet, a speaking prophet or both. Seers have the eye of the Spirit to see the past, the present and the future. Speaking prophets declare the mind of God and sometimes declare what they feel in their spirit and it is done. There are things of value God will want to give a man in the day of his visitation but they will only be channelled through a prophet. If you lack a prophet in your life, then you will miss many favours.

These prophets are often the initiators of God’s miraculous visit to your life. Therefore, in the world of many voices, we cannot afford to ignore a voice ordained by God. The scriptures say of John the Baptist, “There was a man sent from God.” God is always looking for a man He will use to bless us in our hour of visitation.

*“So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.” **Ezekiel 22:30***

We see such men several times in scripture. In the seasons of economic crisis, God used a prophet to deliver people. For example, in the case of the widow of Zarephath, He used a prophet to deliver her and in the case of the prophet's wife, whose sons were about to be taken away by the bailiffs; God used a prophet to initiate her visitation and deliverance.

Divine visitation will come as you recognise the spiritual headship you have. If

you are not under a shepherd, you are exposed to the sun and the elements of the spirit.

Provoking divine visitation is what this book is all about but many have been visited without actually recognising it. As you sit in that pew on Sunday morning, listening to the prophet God has placed in your life, the chances are that he is throwing light that will protect you from coming dangers and project you into coming blessings; but many have missed it and have looked at the humanity of the person in front of them.

Those who have no man they account to spiritually, have no record with God. Before you take any major step, you need agreement with God; you need confirmation of His servant in your life. The beauty of prophetic words, sent by God through His prophets to us, is that if we ourselves are truly listening to God or seeking for the voice of God, what His prophets will say to us will confirm what God has already said. So, if what you are hearing is the voice of God, it will be confirmed by the voice of man. Not every man on the street is your father. Not every Christian pastor is your father. You must belong in a house and you must not miss the visitation that will come to you through that house.

God cannot give a man His divine visitation if that man fails to recognise divine establishment. Those that God has planted into your life to bring you into the counsel of God, are the people surrounding you as your spiritual mentors, teachers and the voice of God in your life.

*“And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.” **Jeremiah 3:15***

CHAPTER 3 – THE STEPS THAT PROVOKE DIVINE VISITATION

Nothing in life just happens. The same applies in the spirit realm. In the spirit realm, as a matter of fact, there are no accidents. Every action has a purpose. It is actions that release unktion. There is no effect without a cause in matters of heaven and earth. So, every reaction is stimulated by an action.

1. SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Sacrifice is the painful giving of what is dear to us. When a sacrifice is felt, it will result in that which is gainful. So, the painful produces the gainful.

God is moved by things that are sacrificial. He is a sacrificial God Himself. We know this because He gave His only begotten Son. That was the selfless action that brought endless blessings.

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” **John 3:16***

So, nothing touches God’s heart like a sacrifice because He is the epitome of sacrifice Himself. It was by sacrifice that Abraham endeared himself to God. God’s response to Abraham was not because he looked nice, rather it was because he obeyed and committed himself to that sacrifice. On Mount Moriah, he placed his only son on the stony altar, ready to cut him into pieces with a glittering sharp knife, if it would please the God whom he served. This provoked heaven’s visitation.

*“And said: “By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.” **Genesis 22:16-17***

*“By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.” **Hebrews 11:17-19***

The quality and composition of the sacrifice of Abel is what distinguished who God chose between Abel and Cain. Abel was chosen because he brought a proper sacrifice in a proper manner. It cost him something to touch a loving God.

We only want to go where we are expected, celebrated, appreciated and accepted. Sacrifice reveals love. It exposes commitment. God’s visitation and attention is easily accessed by way of a sacrifice. David said, “I will not give to God that which costs me nothing.”

“Then the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing.” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.” **2 Samuel 24:24**

Those who smartly keep what they have, smartly stay broke and outsmart themselves. If you want a divine visitation, study the life of Abraham. That, in itself, will open your eyes. It is powerful to notice that the Isaac he was waiting to give to God was the same Isaac given to him by God. He was ready to release Isaac back to God and in turn, God gave him nations.

Solomon offered an uncommon sacrifice. It provoked God to give him a blank cheque, signed by heaven.

“And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and burned incense at the high places. Now the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place: Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask! What shall I give you?”” **1 Kings 3:3-5**

When a man is truly ready to worship God with that which he has, God is not careful in blessing such a man. He will give him all things richly to enjoy.

“Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.” **1 Timothy 6:17**

When you give what is convenient, that is not a sacrifice; however when you give until you feel it, that painful giving will provoke gainful receiving. It is interesting how people will spend so much money to go and watch a film, change their hair or dress, watch a game and yet, drop a few pennies in the house of God. There is a giving that is beyond the convenient, that makes heaven turn in your direction. If you want a visitation in the realm of your finance, you must provoke it by your earthly sacrifice. It is when you give beyond your convenience that you move God to do what is beyond your imagination.

Those who have learnt to give offerings have broken the power of suffering. But those who have given sacrificially have entered the realm of enjoying magnanimously. Give your Isaac and receive a nation. A sacrifice moved God to swear an oath to be committed to Abraham. He never needed to do that but by that sacrifice, Abraham provoked God to be eternally committed to him.

2. PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Following the completion of the City of David, the king had chosen to bring the Ark back to the temple. People were invited, thousands of them. However in the process of carrying the Ark, one of the young men from the house where it had been kept, touched it and died on the spot. In fear, David and his entourage dumped the Ark in the house of Obed Edom; a Levite who was not invited. We do

not know why. Obed Edom himself was not fully Israelite. He was just co-opted. He was a coloured man, a Gittite, a Canaanite. His name suggests that he was a man of a darker colour. It may not be the reason why he was not invited. However, in the three months that the Ark stayed in his house, he must have given God praise and worship. Within three months, God visited his house powerfully and the story of Obed Edom changed.

Provoking a divine visitation is easily done by praise and worship. Words are transmitters of power. Words carry grace. Words transmit unction. As a man stands in worship before God, he transmits unction and provokes glory. A powerful tool for securing God's visitation is the channel of praise and worship. When you release praise and worship, you release God into the situation.

Another example is the case of Gideon and his three hundred and twenty trumpeters. When confronted with hundreds of thousands of enemies, God reduced the army of Israel to a mere three hundred and twenty from more than thirty thousand men originally. However, the Lord said they should go to the battle, blowing the trumpet, celebrating Him and in the course of doing so they would walk in their visitation and victory.

“Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers—they held the torches in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands for blowing—and they cried, “The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!” And every man stood in his place all around the camp; and the whole army ran and cried out and fled. When the three hundred blew the trumpets, the Lord set every man's sword against his companion throughout the whole camp; and the army fled to Beth Acacia, toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel Meholah, by Tabbath.”

Judges 7:20-22

What shall we say of Jehoshaphat who received a letter from an alliance of kings who threatened him and his kingdom? At that time, Israel had split into two and Jehoshaphat was king of only two tribes. So three powerful kings against two small tribes; but whom God has blessed, no man can curse.

God gave them the antidote for overcoming these powerful enemies: worshiping and singing. God even said to do it into the arena of battle. This is certainly not how to fight a battle in the natural. Warfare in the natural is fought with silence, surprise and shock but God said they should announce His arrival and in the process, God broke through the enemy and the valley of battle became the valley of blessing.

“So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper.” And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the Lord, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: “Praise the Lord, for His mercy endures forever.” Now when they

began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.” **2 Chronicles 20:20-22**

Paul and Silas, having been arrested for preaching the Gospel and doing the right thing, did not grumble in the prison house but gave worship and praise to the God who loved them and called them, and at midnight, God came visiting.

“But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, “Do yourself no harm, for we are all here.” Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.” **Acts 16:25-32**

When earth releases the sweet aroma of worship, heaven reacts. The praise and worship of Paul and Silas provoked God’s reaction and because God is a Spirit, nothing can limit Him – not time, not space, not buildings.

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” **John 4:24**

When you begin to magnify God, He looks down and craves what you are doing.

“But You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel.” **Psalms 22:3**

When you switch the gear of praises on, you get heaven’s attention. The God who subdued the nations for Jehoshaphat; who gave the victory to Gideon and who humbled the jailer of Philippi, can, upon visitation, turn your troubles into triumph; your battles into blessings and your buffeting into breakthrough.

Gideon’s three hundred soldiers had become choir members. The choir members put a mighty terrible army to flight.

“When the three hundred blew the trumpets, the Lord set every man’s sword against his companion throughout the whole camp; and the army fled to Beth Acacia, toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel Meholah, by Tabbath.”

Judges 7:22

If we learn to praise God and magnify Him, He will do the fighting. In the case of Paul and Silas, when they overlooked the circumstance and really exalted the Lord, the earth quaked, the chains fell and the jailhouse broke open because God was in the house.

The mistake the world makes is that it tries to stop us in the wrong places. They incarcerated the legs and hands of Paul and Silas but they could not shut

their mouths. If you want to know God's visitation, then you must turn yourself into a praise machine. You cannot praise God and remain in chains. You cannot be thankful and your tank not be full. Praise will turn your midnight hour into a time of glowing. It will turn your financial battles into financial testimonies. Your midnight of loneliness can become the season of breakthrough. Abandonment can become the time of divine appointment.

So, when they guard other things and stop your movement, they cannot stop your mouth from moving for God.

"Who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness." **Ephesians 4:19**

Here Paul tells us to make melodies to God and every form of malady will disappear. An unlimited praise and hallelujah will bring the unlimited God into the situation. With your praise, you can secure God's attention anywhere, anytime, any day. Praise is the stairway to heaven, the entry point of God into the situation. Praise is the ladder that connects heaven and earth.

When you want a raise, give God some praise. When you want a visitation, lift Him up. Your victory is a praise away. Heaven's visitation is only a praise away.

"Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us." **Psalms 67:5-6**

3. PRAYER

The praying Jesus is the highest argument for prayer. Jesus prayed several times; at the grave of a dead man, at the gate of a lost city and in the garden of Gethsemane. He prayed in the morning, at noon, in the evening and all night. He took time away from his disciples. For Him, it was not a litany. It was a lifestyle.

"And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground." **Luke 22:44**

Prayer is a privilege and tool that God gave man because He anticipated human problems arising. He gave us assurance, "Just call My name, come before Me and ask, I will do it."

"Let us then fearlessly and confidently and boldly draw near to the throne of grace (the throne of God's unmerited favor to us sinners), that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find grace to help in good time for every need [appropriate help and well-timed help, coming just when we need it]." **Hebrews 4:16 (AMP)**

God gave His assurance that He would respond to prayer and visit His people.

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." **2 Chronicles 7:14**

Those who form the habit of praying prepare themselves for access to divine visitation.

*“Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”” **Psalm 50:15***

God promised to honour a heart of prayer. When you pray, your visitation becomes definite. God will not ignore a heart that truly prays with a genuine need and a sincere hope.

*““Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you.” **Isaiah 49:15***

God does not just supply needs, He wants to visit and He wants to see your heart’s desire to receive Him.

*“If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”” **Luke 11:11-13***

Jesus taught on prayer and gave us a guaranteed formula ‘ASK – Asking, Seeking, Knocking’.

*“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.” **Matthew 7:7-8***

Prayer provokes divine visitation. When Israel called upon the Lord in the days of their distress in Egypt, God visited His people and overturned the oppression that seemed as though they could never overcome it. He turned it around.

*“And the Lord said: “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.” **Exodus 3:7***

Their cry saved them; it brought divine visitation. God will intervene and bring you a change if you can see prayer, not as a monotonous sanctimonious action, but a bridge to connecting with God.

When you join prayer with fasting, it becomes a double dose.

*“So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.”” **Mark 9:29***

Jesus told His disciples that there is a dimension of deliverance that is only achievable when divine visitation comes.

In the land of Babylon, while Nehemiah served as a cup bearer, he heard the distressing news about how Jerusalem had been broken and destroyed. It provoked him to prayer. The result was awesome. He completed the city’s rebuilding and had favour with men.

4. ZEAL

Zeal is necessary to experience divine visitation. It is zeal for God and His house that makes us take steps that are extraordinary.

“Then His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up.”” **John 2:17**

Zeal will produce a commitment from us and when we are committed to God, He will be committed to us. Zealous people will bring God into their situation. A commitment to God’s Kingdom’s affairs releases God’s Kingdom for you. God cannot see commitment and remain unmoved. When you are committed to His Kingdom, you receive earthly blessings. God Himself will meet you at the point of your need. Those who honour Him with zeal get His own zealous response.

“The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken in pieces; from heaven He will thunder against them. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth. “He will give strength to His king, and exalt the horn of His anointed.”” **1 Samuel 2:10**

Zeal is not about being religious. It is about being sold out to the purpose of God. It is about commitment and going all out to achieve the will of God. You cannot serve God with your essence, person and strength and be starved of His presence. Every instance of God visiting His people in the Bible can be traced back to a generation of the zealous and committed. There are several men and women in scripture who personify bravery, outstanding achievement and zeal; from Abraham to Isaac, Jacob to Job, Daniel and what shall we say of Deborah, the three Hebrew men, or Paul and Silas? All of them found themselves in the most difficult and arduous situations and yet they stood in zeal for God and experienced His visitation.

Your miracle is not certain until you have served God with total zeal. When you serve Him that way, it gives you confidence to challenge Him to move on your behalf. This truth must have been at the back of Hezekiah’s mind when God sent His prophet Isaiah to tell Hezekiah that he would die. The king began to recount his personal commitment to kingdom promotion to God.

“In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, “Thus says the Lord: ‘Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live.’” Then he turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the Lord, saying, “Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what was good in Your sight.” And Hezekiah wept bitterly. And it happened, before Isaiah had gone out into the middle court, that the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “Return and tell Hezekiah the leader of My people, ‘Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father: “I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the Lord.”” **2 Kings 20:1-5**

The result was that God overturned the verdict of death and extended Hezekiah's life by fifteen years.

God is looking for your zeal in order to bring you your blessing. A divine visitation is awaiting your total commitment.

CHAPTER 4 – THE BLESSINGS OF PROVOKING GOD’S VISITATION

Please remember that divine visitation is a season and time when God chooses to make Himself known to you in a most powerful way. For some, it is a revival. For others, it is a release of blessing. No matter what you are seeking; God can exceed what you seek.

“Having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.” 1 Peter 2:12

Certainly for those who seek Him, He can visit them beyond their prayer points.

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.” Ephesians 3:20

This type of visitation is the surprise arrival of God’s power, presence and purpose in your life. It is God’s package of pleasant surprises that will change your life totally. Just like He did for Sarah, and made her laugh.

“And Sarah said, “God has made me laugh, and all who hear will laugh with me.” She also said, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? For I have borne him a son in his old age.”” Genesis 21:6-7

Only a divine visitation could make a ninety-year old woman pregnant. It is very difficult to understand, and impossible except for the manifestation of God’s awesome finger.

So, what are the benefits of God's visitation?

Divine visitation will give you a “How can this be!” miracle.

“Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?”” Luke 1:34

God sent His angel to visit Mary and the angel announced, 'the Spirit of the Lord will visit you and that which you will conceive will be a holy thing'. Such a visitation comes unexpectedly, unsolicited and by divine assignment, as we see in Mary's case.

“And Mary said: “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.” Luke 1:46-48

This type of visitation can come at the hour you did not expect and faster than your prayer. For example, when the believers were busy praying for Peter, he had already been released by an angel.

“Now Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the door and saw him,

they were astonished.” **Acts 12:16**

This is God’s ‘too good to believe’ experience that He favours His people with. It is God’s strategy for fighting on behalf of His people.

When Pharaoh rose against Israel, thinking they were a bunch of ex-slaves, not trained in warfare and lacking in all abilities, God’s divine visitation silenced the Pharaoh.

“And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.” **Exodus 14:27-28**

On the hand, we see occasions in the New Testament when God visited people who failed to give Him glory, or who stole it. Herod arrogated to himself the glory due to God. God visited him but only for judgement.

“Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died.” **Acts 12:23**

When the children of Ammon rose against Jehoshaphat, God visited. As God’s people were busy praising God for their victory, the enemy was wiped out.

“Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.” **2 Chronicles 20:22**

Part of the result of God’s divine visitation will be His commitment to you for believing in Him. He did this for Abraham and his wife.

“And the Lord visited Sarah as He had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as He had spoken.” **Genesis 21:1**

At such times, He knows how to turn the day of trouble into the day of your visitation.

“Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.” **Psalms 50:15**

He is the Captain of Heaven and He comes down to become involved in your fight. He came down and took on Israel’s fight. We see this in the fact that He showed up to Joshua at the entrance of Jericho.

“And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, “Are You for us or for our adversaries?” So He said, “No, but as Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, “What does my Lord say to His servant?”” **Joshua 5:13-14**

God visits and describes our warfare as His warfare. When God visits, He also

despatches help to you. He sent help to Israel.

“And the Lord said: “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.” Exodus 3:7-8

The time of God’s visitation is also the time of God’s promotion for His people and a season of deliverance from captivity. After all that Job had gone through, the Bible says that God restored everything to him twice over.

“And the Lord restored Job’s losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.” Job 42:10

This was the hour when He erased Job's pain after all that he had been through. Joseph spoke of such an hour when he told the people of God that one day they would be coming out of Egypt.

“And Joseph said to his brethren, “I am dying; but God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land to the land of which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”” Genesis 50:24

God’s visitation brings God’s finger to show that He reigns supreme over the matters relating to your life. A visitation like this will happen when you least expect it. It is in times like these that God shows His sovereignty.

While praise, prayer, sacrifice and seed-sowing and zeal all provoke visitation, the sovereignty of God can overrule and override. Because of that, God can visit at a time when you are not even the likely candidate. It was certainly not the prayer of Mary that made her qualify to carry the Messiah.

“And having come in, the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!”” Luke 1:28

When God’s visitation comes, barrenness becomes fruitfulness. Zechariah, the man who served in the temple, had gone through a period of childlessness. Before he became the father of John, he had no inkling that , his lot would change by divine visitation.

When God visits, He will bring divine favour.

“So he cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them, and there He tested them, and said, “If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you.”” Exodus 15:25-26

In the days of God’s visitation, He arises to help you.

“You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favor her, yes, the set

time, has come.” Psalm 102:13

Your favour will outshine all the labour. Your favour will manifest. Angels will join in announcing it. You will become the chief agent of God for divine change in your life.

When a man is in his season of visitation, fruitfulness will follow and when you become fruitful, all those who have ridiculed you will come and see the miracle God gave you. God will replace your tears with laughter and instead of being a casual visitor to you, He will abide with you.

“And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” 2 Corinthians 6:16

When God visits, this favour will be accompanied by mercy, graciousness and the pity of God. God will look down upon you with a sense of pity, not as if He is sorry for you but pity in the sense of caring and taking on your battles.

The visitation of God will burst into a situation and turn tears to joy. God cannot be in a place and the atmosphere remain unchanged. Just as He calls a thing and it becomes what He calls it, His presence turns things around. Jesus saw a blind man and spoke to him as though he could see, and he received sight. Jesus saw the lame man and said, “walk” and the man walked. Everything becomes what God calls it.

He spoke to a woman who was bent over for more than eighteen years and her back straightened. He spoke to water and called it ‘wine’ and it became wine. In the days of God’s visitation to your life, God can look at what seems empty and call it abundant and it will change.

“Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” Psalm 126:5-6

Divine visitation will also take you beyond the limits of life. Let's look at Paul and Silas; they were incarcerated in prison in Philippi, it seemed as if the end had come.

“But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed.” Acts 16:25-26

However, doors began to open, the chains fell off their feet, and the hindrances left because of visitation. Just a one day visit from God will open your eyes to see the things that you have lost over the years.

“And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: “Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.” Genesis 13:14-15

In the day of God's visitation to your life, He will bring you into a season when you will see the hidden treasures that already belong to you; that are awaiting your discovery.

*"I will go before you and make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze and cut the bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that I, the Lord, who call you by your name, am the God of Israel." **Isaiah 45:2-3***

In the day of God's visitation, everything that wants to hold you down will give way because your season to rise and soar has come.

*"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." **Isaiah 40:31***

God's visitation guarantees protection.

*"But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them." **John 10:12***

That is why the scriptures speak of God rising and His enemies scattering. In the seasons of God's visitation, the very thing that destroyed others will have no power over you. When you see disasters around you, they will not come near you, you will only see them. You will not partake of them.

*"A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you." **Psalms 91:7***

Divine visitation will release the peace of God. No more will you be guided and controlled by fear but the peace of God will bring a fear-free life.

*"As it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations" in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;" **Romans 4:17***

God's visitation erases satan's power in your life, makes you restful in a restless world.

*"Great peace have those who love Your law, and nothing causes them to stumble." **Psalms 119:165***

"Great peace have those who love Your law". When your peace is withdrawn, it means God is not around. One of the marks of the presence of God is the peace that He releases in us. That peace rules over your life and you will not be desperate or afraid. Rather, you will be in charge and calm.

*"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." **John 14:27***

Divine visitation will also produce an uncommon and unusual level of progress for you. God cannot visit a place and there is regression. Rather, His presence increases your speed in life.

“Then the hand of the Lord came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.” 1 Kings 18:46

Divine visitation will provoke you into making progress. If you have been slowed down by all kinds of baggage, get ready: Visitation will move you forward.

Divine visitation also results in productivity and increase. Everything you touch will increase because you are no longer alone.

“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4:4

In the middle of a drought and famine so severe that it caused a massive movement of people out of Palestine, God spoke to Isaac. That visitation made Isaac experience progress and increase.

“There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines, in Gerar. Then the Lord appeared to him and said: “Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I shall tell you. Dwell in this land, and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your descendants I give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father. And I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.” So Isaac dwelt in Gerar. And the men of the place asked about his wife. And he said, “She is my sister”; for he was afraid to say, “She is my wife,” because he thought, “lest the men of the place kill me for Rebekah, because she is beautiful to behold.” Now it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked through a window, and saw, and there was Isaac, showing endearment to Rebekah his wife. Then Abimelech called Isaac and said, “Quite obviously she is your wife; so how could you say, ‘She is my sister’?” Isaac said to him, “Because I said, ‘Lest I die on account of her.’” And Abimelech said, “What is this you have done to us? One of the people might soon have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt on us.” So Abimelech charged all his people, saying, “He who touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.” Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed him. The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous;” Genesis 26:1-13

In the middle of the famine, he planted and had a bumper harvest.

Divine visitation will take you from glory to glory. When God visits a person, the glory of His presence rests on such people and they, too, are elevated beyond what holds them down.

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 3:18

Because of God's visit to Abraham, the man became prosperous.

"Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold." **Genesis 13:2**

The same thing happened when God visited Isaac; he became prosperous.

"The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous;" **Genesis 26:13**

When God begins to visit your house, there has to be progress. What held you down will give up.

Divine visitation is the instrument that turns situations around, it brings fullness out of emptiness; peace out of trouble; and positive change where there has been stagnancy.

Get ready for your day of visitation.